

very long since, upon data and calculations, which are near approximations of those used in the present instance. Westward of this meridian, the course of the Potomac was found in Map No. 63 of the table; an actual survey of the Board of Internal Improvement. This line in default of astronomical observations has been used for defining the western boundary of the state. Still farther west, the map of Virginia has furnished the Geography of the country adjacent to the South Branch of the Potomac.

It has been thought important that in a territory—whose situation is like that of Maryland—embracing the great marine outlet of an immense district, as much of this adjoining district should be given in one view, as possible; and that the positions and relations of *natural* boundaries should be regarded; however much or widely separated by civil or municipal distinctions. Hence, besides the extreme verge of the Delaware Peninsula, is included also a part of the Susquehanna; and while the facilities for foreign communication and commercial enterprise are exhibited on the one hand, a glance on the other takes in the riches and resources, the growth and prospects of the inland country of the West. The object was to shew how completely it is in the power of Maryland to secure whatever benefits may be connected with so rich a carrying trade, as that which may be made—which *must* be made to exist between the positions. This has been as far as possible gained by a few additional square feet of canvas; while the hazard of making the map inconveniently large, was more than compensated, it was thought, in the advantage of having obtained this object.

The *extent* of the map having been determined upon, it remained to ascertain the most proper projection and the most convenient scale. Admitting the defects attributed to *Flat-maps*, in which the meridians as well as the lines of latitude are strictly parallel with one another, in so comparatively small a portion of Territory these defects have been hardly operative; while the facility of accuracy in reducing the original Maps, compensated, it was thought, for whatever defect there might exist of this kind. The difference, too, between the area afforded by this projection and that derived from the calculations of the Rhumbs is so minute as to prevent any distortion from taking place or the formation of any false ideas as to the relative positions of different places.

The proportion of the map to the actual extent of territory included in its limits is as 1-200,000; that is to say that every measurement on the map is intended to be the 1-200,000th part of a similar actual measurement.